

**Gamble Program for  
Clinical Studies**

David I. Bernstein, MD  
*Director*

Rebecca C. Brady, MD

Beverly L. Connelly, MD

Michael A. Gerber, MD

Gilbert M. Schiff, MD

Mary A. Staat, MD, MPH

Richard L. Ward, PhD

Michelle Dickey, MS, CRNP  
*Nurse Practitioner*

Jeffrey Doughman, BS, MBA  
*Business Director*

March 10, 2005

The Honorable Diana DeGette  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1527 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Via FAX: 202-225-5657

Dear Representative DeGette:

As a member of the Association of Independent Research Institutes (AIRI), I am writing to strongly support your legislation, H.R. 810, The Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act, which would expand federal support for human stem cell research.

I understand first-hand the promise held by human embryonic stem cell research. This research may make it possible for those Americans crippled by Parkinson's disease and spinal cord injuries, as well as those suffering from Alzheimer's and many other debilitating diseases, to significantly improve their quality of life. Promoting the exploration of reasonable possibilities for curing and preventing disease is the responsibility not only of scientists but of the leaders of the nation.

Thank you for acknowledging the promise of continued medical discovery that embryonic stem cell research can offer. Your thoughtful legislation not only allows for broader federal funding for stem cell research, but also takes the appropriate steps to ensure the development of ethical guidelines for the future derivation of embryonic stem cell lines.

I appreciate your prominent leadership and your dedication to expanding stem cell research, which holds the potential for new cures and therapies for an array of life-altering diseases affecting millions of Americans.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gilbert M. Schiff".

Gilbert M. Schiff, MD, FACP  
Emeritus Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics  
Emeritus Director, Gamble Program for Clinical Studies

GMS:mat

C: AIRI Washington Office

H:AIRI:Hon Diana DeGette ltr 305

Cincinnati Children's  
Hospital Medical Center

MLC 6014  
333 Burnet Avenue  
Cincinnati, OH 45229-3039  
(513) 636-4578  
(513) 636-7699 *study line*  
(513) 636-7682 *fax*  
www.cincinnatichildrens.org

An Equal Opportunity Employer